THE

# WEEKLY INSPECTOR.

" Of those men who have overturned the Liberties of Republics, the greatest number " have begun their career by paying an obsequious court to the People—commencing " DEMAGOGUES, and ending TYRANTS." HAMILTON.

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The following pieces, which appertain to a literary controversy commenced in this paper, were received some weeks since, but their publication was deferred to make room for political matter connected with our late election.

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The author of the Remarks first inserted in the WEEKLY INSPECTOR, on the injurious tendency of altering European publications, requests the Editor to copy from the PEOPLE'S FRIEND the following attack upon him, and publish the observations subjoined.

*From the People's Friend.*

I should not have deemed it necessary to make any reply to the remarks published in this paper on the 10th instant, by the author of a communication on the subject of copy rights, first published in the Weekly Inspector, had not the ingenious and liberal editor of the People's Friend, favoured the public with his sentiments on the subject, together with a republication of that very "*lengthy*" disquisition. The observations contained in that communication, I considered merely as the complaints of disappointed avarice, which under the guise of zeal for the public good had descended to the most illiberal and wanton personality in regard to Dr. Abercrombie. He was accused of base and unworthy motives in publishing his edition of Murray's Grammar; and the additions he had made to it, which, by the laws of his country, had entitled him to the benefit of a copy-right, were pronounced by the writer of the communication to be "insignificant, unnecessary, and irrelevant."

And this, without furnishing any date from the work itself, by which the public might judge of the truth or falsehood of the charge. As a friend to Dr. Abercrombie, and knowing intimately his personal worth, his learning and ability, and the delicacy, fairness, and honorable conduct he had observed towards Mr. Murray on the publication of the Grammar, I felt indignant at an accusation, as base as it was unfounded. To repel this unjust, and most unmerited attack on the character of that gentleman, more than to enter the field of controversy on the subject of copy right, I took up the pen. And had I been disposed to avail myself of the *lex talionis*, I could readily have shown with what propriety the writer of the communication has inveighed against *quackery*, and accused others of being influenced by the "*auri sacra fames*." I could forcibly have brought to his recollection the old proverb that "*he who lives in a glass-house should not be the first to throw stones.*"

This writer seems very anxious to make the public believe that he is engaged in a just and most honorable cause; in the support of a principle intimately connected with the interests of the community at large. Be it so. Let us admit for a moment the principle for which he contends. Where is the benefit the public would derive from it? Would the English works in question be sold any cheaper? Certain-

ly not. For being in the hands of a few booksellers, whose capital has enabled them to print a large edition, they could fix their own prices. Would it facilitate the acquisition of learning, or tend to encourage the exertions of genius in this country? On the contrary. For here, very few men possessing the requisite qualifications will submit to the drudgery of writing an entire treatise on any branch of education. They already perceive English elementary works of merit on every art and science. But they may also perceive faults in them; errors and omissions of the greatest consequence. Are these not to be corrected? must no additions or improvements be made, however necessary for the elucidation of an important principle, or the explanation of difficulties, that might otherwise discourage the efforts of the learner? Upon the principle laid down by this writer, nothing of the kind must be done. English books must be used in all the schools in this country, as they come from the hands of the original authors; "with all their imperfections on their heads." Or if any person can suggest alterations or improvements in them, however valuable they may be, he is not to receive the benefit the laws of this country hold out for the exertion of talents and literary industry, but must very submissively lay them at the feet of the English authors. This sort of reasoning may be very good for booksellers, who print large editions of English works, but I very much doubt whether the public will see its propriety in regard to the interest and welfare of the community.

With respect to the propriety of the law allowing American copy-rights for additions and improvements to English works; I am exceedingly sorry to find myself completely at issue with the sentiments of a gentleman of such distinguished learning and genius as the editor of the People's Friend. It appears, however, to me, that the gentleman has totally mistaken the real ground of dispute.

Mr. Carpenter does not seem to make any distinction between foreign books imported into this country for sale, and afterwards re-published here, and works sent out from a foreign country, or originating here, for which a copy-right has been regularly secured. Yet there is a wide difference, and the law of this country on this subject, has very wisely drawn the line. It holds out complete protection to any author or proprietor, whether foreign or domestic, whenever a copy-right has been taken out. But in the case of foreign books imported into this country like any other merchandize, it is manifest, no such protection can be claimed.

In this case the authors or proprietors of such works have no rights on this side the Atlantic. Their works become common property, the moment they are imported into this country. As much so, as if they had been written and published a thousand years ago. He therefore, who publishes an edition of any work of this description, encroaches upon no man's property—invades no man's rights—infringes no law. If he makes additions and improvements, or any important alterations in such works, for *those*, in as much as they are the fruits of his own mind, he is entitled to the protection of the law by a copy-right. *He does not receive a copy-right for the whole work, but only for the additions and alterations he had introduced into it.* Not knowing this circumstance, I conceive, has occasioned the mistake Mr. Carpenter has been led into in giving his sentiments on this subject.

Editions with these alterations can never be productive of any injury to the public. If the work be really improved, the community is undoubtedly benefitted by it. If not, the editor suffers the punishment of his presumption, by finding no sale for his edition. And the original work is always open to any other person, who may incline to publish it, either with *other* or *no alterations* at all. But whether these alterations and additions for which copy-rights are obtained, be really of utility or not, is not a question for the law to

decide. The public at large is the tribunal that must, and will determine that point.

Copy-rights are much of the nature of patents for any new discovery or invention. With this exception, that the former are by no means so likely to impose upon the credulity of the ignorant and poorer classes of society. Moreover, they carry their own punishment with them. Witness their voluminous labour of folly and presumption that garnish the shelves of every bookseller.

But when a patent is taken out, the proprietor has all the advantage of an exclusive sale. Whether the thing in itself be of utility or not, he may fix his own price. Thus, we have seen, both in this country and in England a patent obtained for a pair of iron and brass skewers, which, under the dignified name of metalic tractors, were sold here at the *moderate* price of *twenty dollars*, and in England at *fourteen guineas a pair*. And yet, it is questioned by some, whether these famous points were ever of any real service to the world. From this circumstance it may be conjectured what would be the price the conscience of a bookseller might set on any popular English work, of which he has the exclusive sale.

VINDEX.

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I shall put in my claim to much credit for good nature in thus repeatedly assisting my angry adversary to circulate his productions, and especially for my condescension in taking notice of those "*indignant emotions*," which have hurried him into expressions foolish and indecent.

If by his indiscretion in attempting to defend an untenable cause, he has called forth the pointed animadversions of several writers, and covered both himself and his friend with obloquy, why not pursue the only course that can relieve the difficulty? Be more discreet in future. But no. Unable to restrain his own choler, he seems to think that he can make me ridiculous also, by exciting mine. However, as it has ever been my settled opinion, that *one* angry man in a *literary* controvery is quite enough, I shall preserve *my* serenity during whatever I may have to say on the present subject. It would have been gratifying to me to have discussed this question with an able and temperate writer, but as one of this description has not presented against me, I must be contented to acknowledge *Vindex* as my opponent; and shall therefore proceed to give a brief analysis of his last communication.

In casting my eyes over his piece, I see but one or two remarks that bear the semblance of an argument. He commences by charging me with unworthy motives in exciting this controversy; with abusing Dr. ABERCROMBIE, &c. and then dwells on the "delicacy, fairness, and honorable conduct," that gentleman has observed towards LINDLEY MURRAY. With regard to the first two of these charges, I shall condescend to inform him, that a considerable part of the piece which gave him so much disturbance, was penned, as the respectable editors of the *Weekly Inspector* and the *Commercial Advertiser*, to whom it was shown, can attest, six months before Dr. ABERCROMBIE'S Grammar was in being. No particular Grammar nor book was then mentioned nor alluded to. The object of the writer was to expose the *principle* which favoured the alteration of English books in this country; and taking copy-rights to secure an emolument for their sale. On reviewing those observations, in order to prepare them for publication, the various *mutilations* of MURRAY'S Grammar afforded a good exemplification of the mischiefs arising from that practice. It appeared that a respectable teacher at Boston had altered it, and claimed a copy-right, because it was before *too long*; another respectable teacher at Philadelphia had altered it, and claimed a copy-right, because it was before *too short*; and a third respectable teacher near Worcester had altered it, and claimed a copy-

right, because it was neither too short nor too long, but because it wanted only a new system of punctuation. Not one of these copy-right claimers being known to the writer, he had no other criterion for judging them than by their fruits.

Respecting the "delicacy, fairness, honorable conduct," &c. above mentioned, I shall only observe, that so widely different is the judgment of others on *this* particular, that a respectable bookseller in Philadelphia, who had partly contracted with the Doctor to publish his book, after further reflection, and ascertaining the sentiment of LINDLEY MURRAY on the subject, declined having any concern in it.

It is next suggested that I pronounced the Doctor's alterations "insignificant, unnecessary, and irrelevant," without furnishing any date (meaning *data*) from the work itself, by which the public "might judge of the truth or falsehood of the charge." All this would have been more reasonable had it happened to have been true; but unhappily it is entirely the reverse. Let the reader refer to the piece in question, and be himself the judge. Perhaps VINDEX will next assure us that the author of LUCIUS, has also furnished no "date" by which the public might judge. The next *thing*, like an argument, is the following: "Let us "admit, for a moment, the principle "for which he contends. Where is "the benefit the public would derive "from it? Would the English works "in question be sold any cheaper? "Certainly not. For being in the "hands of a few booksellers, whose "capital has enabled them to print a "large edition, they would fix their "own prices"!!! I can well imagine that the reader will conclude that, if the author of VINDEX be a person of even ordinary capacity, he must absolutely not here mean what he says; for it would not require an ordinary portion of intellect to see that the fact mentioned of booksellers printing large editions, flies directly in the face of our logician. A bookseller thus circumstanced, it is evident, would not only be *able*, but would find it for his *interest* to sell the book *cheaper*. This would indeed be the only way by which he could secure the monopoly, if he wished to possess it. Thus much for the *general* view of the argument: now for the particular application of it. Securing a copy-right tends to make a book *cheaper*. The reader is therefore to *infer* that Dr. ABERCROMBIE has made MURRAY'S Abridgment *cheaper*. But has it proved so? No. He has absolutely RAISED the Philadelphia price of this Grammar!!

But to proceed: "Would it facili- "tate the acquisition of learning, or "tend to encourage the exertions of "genius in this country? Certainly "not. For *here very few possessing the* "*requisite qualifications* will *submit to* "*the drudgery* of writing an entire trea- "tise on any branch of education." Excellent sentiments! But let us analyze them, in order to enjoy them the more. "HERE *very few possess the requisite qualifications*." The public will receive this sentiment with the greater delight, because it admits, what every American ought to admit, the imbecility of the American intellect; and, especially, because it confirms the theory of those great philosophers, the Abbey RAYNAL, and BUFFON. These "indignant emotions" which have occasioned so much inconvenience to my opponent, led him to forget that LINDLEY MURRAY himself is a native of that country where "very few possess the requisite qualifications." Again. Americans will not "*submit to the drudgery* of writing an entire treatise," &c. As VINDEX probably derived the first sentiment from the two great philosophers above named, so he may have received the latter from other sources. At any rate, they may be found in the creed of BARRINGTON the pickpocket, and in the practices of the barbarians of Tripoli.—Neither of these "will submit to the drudgery" of honest industry, whilst piracy and plunder are within their power.

In the expression of his regret that the sentiments of the learned editor of the PEOPLE'S FRIEND, do not cor-

respond with his own, respecting "the law, allowing American *Copy rights* for additions and improvements to English books," I will do VINDEX the justice to admit that he has shown no small powers, in his introduction and management of that matter; but they are the powers of *invention*. The reader will probably smile on learning that after all which he has told us respecting that editor's opinion of a "copy right," respecting his "mistake," after the wonderful matter which is tricked out in italics, as if it were of importance, or as if any person ever doubted the fact stated in those italics, the learned editor did not drop a syllable about "copy rights;" nor convey any idea which would admit of being contorted to the meaning that VINDEX has given of it. But this is not the first time that my *ingenious* opponent has attributed sentiments to others which they never uttered; and then, with wonderful gravity, set about a laboured reply.

The editor spoke on the general merits of the subject; and which referred chiefly to the question, whether the practice in America of altering English publications, in reality tended to improve them; and especially, whether it promoted the general interests of literature. On this head he expressed himself with that elegance of diction and independence of principle, which will be observed among those only who have not merely the *ability* to judge, but who have also the *honesty* to impart their judgment, whether friend or foe suffers in consequence. The following are his words: "We cannot lay a principle of unbounded importance at the feet of ceremony or private feeling; and our opinion, founded on a long consideration of the subject, and fortified by the decisions of some of the wisest men that have ever existed, is on this occasion point blank against Mr. ABERCROMBIE'S friend, and, we believe, our's too. *Amicus Socrates, amicus Plato, sed magis amica veritas.*"

It was no wonder that the anger of my intemperate opponent should have arisen some degrees above blood heat, at witnessing the universal dissatisfaction which has been expressed with the principle he has defended. The editors of the COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER, the WEEKLY INSPECTOR, and the PEOPLE'S FRIEND, have all condemned him. The first has the following pithy and unanswerable remarks:—

"We feel it a duty of every friend to the acknowledged rights in the great literary family, to bear testimony against the unjustifiable practice which has drawn forth the discussion in the preceding columns. Should this practice generally prevail, all confidence among authors would cease to exist; and all excitements to the efforts of genius would be inevitably destroyed. The laurels of a MILTON and a SHAKSPEARE, of a NEWTON and a LOCKE, an ADDISON and a MURRAY, would soon be *seized* by the American grammarians, rhetoricians, and poets. For the honour of our country let the practice be abandoned. In science and in literature, let not the reputation of a nation, nor an individual, 'be built on another's foundation."

But I must hasten to pronounce my *hic finis fandi* to this controversy. Previously, however, it may tend to the benefit of an indiscreet, though, perhaps, a well meaning young man, to remark, that a writer seldom advances his cause by indulging his "*indignant emotions;*" nor, by abandoning the matter in debate, to make a mere *personal attack*. The public are sure to consider such a line of conduct as a proof of the rottenness of the cause he has espoused. Whether the writer of VINDEX guessed right, in singling out his object, is immaterial. It was his *intent* to be *personal;* and we must receive the intention for the action. Feeling, as I have already intimated, nothing but good nature towards him, I would not, for scarcely any consideration, strip off the cloak with which his signature clothes him.

*Stat nominis umbra*, is a protection for which *he* is entirely indebted to my generosity; and seldom has an unsuccessful candidate for the chaplet of public approbation, stood more in need of that protection, than the writer of VINDEX. His real name was early made known to me, not, however, by those who were intrusted with the secret, as editors of a newspaper;---but let him take care of his future conduct, and I will humanely be the guardian of his reputation, as it is dependent on the past.

## MR. HARISON's SPEECH.

*The following sketch of a speech delivered last evening to the Electors, by one so highly respected, esteemed, and beloved as* RICHARD HARISON, *cannot but be highly acceptable.* [*E. Post.*

We are now to enter upon a most important election in which all our affections must be engaged, and all our exertions will be necessary.

If there were no peculiar reasons for zeal and exertion upon the present occasion, I could safely confide in the good sense and patriotism which has always animated and distinguished my federal friends. But what man is there among us who could be the indifferent spectator of a contest, in which the most exalted and estimable characters in our state are opposed to the Satellites of a Faction, not of Republicans (as they arrogantly term themselves), but of Democrats, instigated, guided, and controlled, by an overbearing demagogue?

Besides the general motives by which we should be actuated, and these resulting from the character of the candidates, we have others of the most alarming and extraordinary nature. We have seen a Genet, the insulter of our Washington, the audacious emissary of an intriguing and ambitious foreign Government, holding out the terrors of French conquest to our fellow electors. We have seen a set of foreigners, who, by the indulgence of our laws, and the philanthropy of our countrymen, have been admitted to an asylum among us, some of whom are scarcely warm upon our shores, and still aliens to our Government, united by legislative grace for charitable purposes, but perverting their institution into a political engine, to influence, and even to over-awe and direct our elections.—Who is there among us, deserving the name of an American, that does not view such conduct with the indignation that it merits? Who is there among us who is not jealous of the glory and independence of his country? Who does not revere the character and maxims of a Washington, and look upon his farewell address as the last kind warnings of a tender and affectionate parent to his beloved children?

Listen, then, I beseech you, to the expressions which it contains, and let them remain for ever engraven upon your hearts.

"All combinations and associations (says that illustrious man), under whatever plausible character, with the real design to direct or control, counteract, or overawe the regular deliberations of the constituted authorities, are destructive of a fundamental principle, and fatal in their tendency."

Again, he says—"However combinations and associations of the above description may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely in the course of time and things to become potent engines, by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people, and to usurp for themselves the reins of government."

Let me not be told that the combinations and associations here referred to, were only such as were *directly* to influence and overawe the constituted authorities.—No, my fellow-citizens, the description was expressly intended for jacobin or democratic societies, combined and organized under specious pretexts, but for political purposes.---And let me observe, that no mode more effectual or infamous could

be devised for directing, controlling, and overawing the constituted authorities, than by making their election depend upon the joint ballot of a numerous and influential society, enforcing the concurrence of all its members, under the penalty of expulsion, and the personal inconveniences attached to it.---If such a combination or association would be dangerous and reprehensible, when made by native citizens, how much more odious and formidable must it appear, if composed of strangers, who (let their merits in other respects be what they may) must want the warm glow of affection which nature has implanted towards our native soil?

Let it not be rashly concluded from any thing I have said, that I mean to implicate foreigners generally, in any censure, or to be an advocate for illiberal suspicions or conduct. On the contrary, regarding several of them as my particular friends, and believing that numbers of others are worthy of confidence, and that many of those whom we now censure have been misled, and will return to better principles; I do not hesitate to say, that just discriminations should be made, and that the worthy foreigner who becomes an American in heart and conduct, should be hailed as a brother, and participate, not only in the liberties, but in the honours of the country. Foreigners, however, ought to be viewed with a scrupulous attention, until by long residence, and approved good conduct, they have become truly naturalized and well known. If, forgetting their former attachment, they seek not to distinguish themselves from native Americans, and are desirous to be amalgamated with the mass of the community, they may be entitled to our regard. But when they combine, and unite themselves into a separate body, professedly for charitable, but really with a view to political objects, they should excite not only the jealousy, but the aversion of the community. They are really a foreign phalanx, consolidated and arrayed, with portended spears, under an able and ambitious leader, with intent to bear down all opposition, and to trample under foot the native American character. It is sufficient, therefore, that such a society has been formed; that it has presumed *collectively* to interfere with the ensuing election; that it has proscribed such of its members as shall dare to think and act for themselves, and that it thus intends to direct, control, and overawe the election. Knowing this, we have the most cogent reasons for alarm and exertion, if we mean to preserve the dignity and rights of the American people. It is in vain that the Legislature of the country have forbid individuals to use bribery or menace to influence the elector in giving his vote, if an incorporated combination of foreigners and new made citizens can threaten expulsion to all who shall venture to support particular candidates. Such a society so conducted, and so composed, is a monster in the community, dangerous to its liberty, and calculated only to produce disorder, confusion, bloodshed, and anarchy.

But, my fellow-citizens, enough has been said of the nature and tendency of this society. Let us now turn our attention to the motives which are assigned for their very extraordinary resolution. They profess, it seems, an aversion for federal men and federal measures---The characters of Federalists, and the public measures which they adopted, are an abomination in the eyes of the virtuous persons who compose the society, and who have brought to this country the principles of United Irishmen, ready for our adoption.---Who, then, we may inquire, are federal men, and what are federal measures, that they should be so repugnant to the stomachs of these fastidious guests who have been introduced to our hospitable shores? Among them, first and most prominent, stands the immortal Washington, the father of his country, endeared by virtue to every American bosom, whose unsullied reputation was never assailed but by the pens of unprincipled and mercenary foreigners---Among them

stands distinguished the name of a Hamilton, the friend and companion of his general, elevated by genius, but more elevated by honourable and virtuous principles, whose whole soul was inflamed by genuine patriotism, whose merits are for ever recorded in the hearts of his fellow-citizens.---Among them were a Paterson, a Knox, and many others, whose memories will live and be venerated, as long as the American nation and American history shall be known---besides a host of others, distinguished by their talents, by their public services, and their reputation, who are still alive, and whom, for that reason, and for that reason only, I forbear to mention.

Such are federal men. Let us now take a slight sketch of federal measures; for these, too, it seems, are objects of disgust to this enlightened society.

Here, indeed, I must confess that the Federalists have not indulged themselves in any Utopian reveries upon the perfectability of human nature; that they have not hired a Callender or a Duane to calumniate the Father of his country, and the friends of his administration; that they have not subverted the judiciary, nor dismissed from office judges constitutionally appointed during good behaviour by the omnipotence of a legislative fiat; that they have not purchased an undefined and barren wilderness, at an enormous expense; nor lavished millions in building gun-boats, in planning dry-docks, nor in buying the forbearance or favour of a foreign despot, or his unworthy minions. These things they have not done. These things, therefore, are not the objects of the society's dislike. But they framed, and, notwithstanding the violent opposition of Mr. Clinton and his friends, they established the federal Constitution, and have thereby preserved the Union. They restored public credit and public confidence, when reduced to the lowest ebb. They provided for the security and payment of the public debt. They maintained a wise and faithful and equal neutrality between the contending powers of Europe. They planned and set on foot a navy for the protection of our commerce and our sea-ports. They established arsenals, and provided arms, to be ready in case of necessity. They supported and raised the reputation of our country to the most enviable height, and made it respectable in the eyes of all nations. They resisted the impudent and artful machinations, as well as the open and undisguised hostilities of a foreign nation---and finally, though lovers of peace, they prepared for war, in case it should prove inevitable, and were ready to expend Millions for Defence, but not one Cent for Tribute.

Such were federal measures---They require no comment---They need no eulogium. Whatever may be the opinion of the Hibernian Society, I trust that such measures will be respected as long as the names of Washington and Hamilton shall be dear to Americans---as long as the liberties and constitution of our contry have an existence.

If any thing more, fellow-citizens, could be necessary to increase our zeal and activity in the ensuing election, it is to be found in the calumny and abuse with which our best citizens have been loaded by the democratic presses, and principally by that which is under the conduct of a person of foreign birth---who has taken refuge in our country. There is no character, no conduct, which has been safe or unassailed, and though the envenomed shafts of malice and defamation have fallen short of their objects, there is every reason that we should now convince these malignant libellers not only of their impotence, but that an effect has been produced diametrically opposite to the one which they intended.

One gentleman in particular has been singled out as a conspicuous mark for the attacks of a desperate foe. His conduct in public and private life has always been irreproachable. The breath of slander itself was restrained, when his name was

mentioned, until he was found to interfere with the ambitious projects of a dominant faction. Then indeed the most absurd and extravagant accusations were framed against him; and although he was respected, honoured, and esteemed abroad, as well as at home; the execution of an official duty to the perfect satisfaction of his country, has been made the copious theme for volumes of abuse.—The unworty attempt to abuse the public by the misrepresentation of this circumstance calls for the indignation of every honest man, and should stimulate us to more vigorous and energetic measures than we might otherwise have thought necessary.

Rise, then, fellow-citizens, and let your exertions be unremitting; let every nerve be strained, every fair and honorable expedient be adopted in support of the American Ticket. And may the Almighty look down with favour upon this People; preserve them from the contagion of foreign influence; increase their patriotism; enlighten their councils, and perpetuate to them the blessings of pure and rational liberty.

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A Pamphlet has been published in England, intitled "A State of the Negociation, with details of its progress and the cause of its determination." It is replete with sound political Philosophy, and contains many lofty Maxims of Wisdom. We apprehend that our readers will be pleased with the following extract, which will serve as a specimen of the value of the whole performance. [*Charleston Courier.*

"As to the morals, which, in the absence of all positive institutions, supply their place by an influence perhaps more powerful, the people of France, and the government of France, are totally without any system. They are the first nation in the world which has rendered variable what nature intended should be eternal—which has converted virtue into sophistry, and brought under disputation, and logical scepticism, the first elements of truth, and most sure securities of social peace. Morals with them is a taste, a fashion, a mode varying according to the circumstances of the day. Their obligation is gone, not acknowledged in practice. At the very best the first principles are regarded merely as simple truths—as totally unimportant and withut value, in action. Even honor, the best gift of the feudal system—in many points a sufficient, in almost all a useful substitute for natural morality, does not exist in the system of France—in a word, the three great principles of action—the three great restraints on vice and passion—Religion, Natural Morality, and Honour, have all perished in France, The system of Jacobinism has been followed by that of military despotism. The principles of action having taken the same course. France, as a nation, and every Frenchman, individually, has the morals of a soldier, a slave, a sophist—one who believes nothing with sufficient faith to induce him to adopt it as a principle of action—one who systematically distrusts his reason, and servilely obeys his fears, his passions, his immediate interest. Who would trust such an individual? who could confide in such a nation?

"As to the manners of the present race of Frenchmen, the picture is still more abhorrent.—The manners of a nation are its minor morals; or rather, perhaps, its morals in action through the daily intercourse of life and domestick society. The manners in France, therefore, at the present day, are such as are suited to its morals. The shadow is as deformed as the substance from which it is projected. Their private virtue is at least as bad as their public virtue.—They are as bad husbands, fathers, friends, neighbours, masters, and dependants, as they are citizens. Break their general character into all possible fragments, and every component atom will be found of the same precise qua-

lity, as the general mass. Nor is this state of things temporary. There is an action and re-action which tends to continue it. The state corrupts the individual---the individual supplies the stock of corruption to the state. Each mutually feeds, and is fed. The minor channels, corrupting as they flow, return to swell the grand national reservoir, which overflows in its turn with an augmented force of venom, and assimilates to itself whatever it touches.

" Such, therefore, is the civil despotism of the present French government. The five means of control, and securities of a moderate exercise of the sovereign power---Constitution ---and Aristocracy of privileged classes and acknowledged corporations---long usage---morals---and manners, have no existence. One supreme will governs every thing. Treaties are without sanction, and the public faith the private virtue of one who has affected every thing by his contempt of it.

" Regarded in its second point of view, as a military despotism, the French form of government is still more worthy of attention. Bonaparte is the Genghis Khan of Europe. He knows no law but the sword---no legislative assembly but the camp. The sword is his sceptre, the camp is his cabinet. Uniting the military simplicity of the Tartar conquerors with the military science of Europe, he rests not a moment from his martial habits; he is ever in a state to take the field in the very instant of his necessity. In peace, as in war, he is in a state of encampment, and the whole resources of his nation are as ready at his call, as the sword which is suspended in its sheath by his side. He is, in every sense of the word, a Conqueror, and a military Monarch, His system of rule is that of the feudal system, purged of its ancient weakness. He is an Emperor---an Emperor in the strictest sense of the word, as employed in the lower Roman Empire---an Emperor at the head of confederated officers, all connected with their chief, and with each other, by a common interest---an Emperor elected by his fortune and his guards---governing his people with military despotism, and retaining his army by military discipline. His Prefects and officers are but so many Cæsars, who govern the distant provinces under their patron and political father---the Great Augustus. This system of Empire, as it is founded, so must it be retained, by conquest.---Like the principle of motion, it ceases to exist when it ceases to proceed. It has, moreover, a still more fatal characteristic. The adage, ancient as the world, *Mole rurat sua*, does not apply to it. It easily admits of accession. If another kingdom is added, it requires but another Prefect. The history of mankind is as uniform as the materials of human action. This Empire will be sooner or later overturned by the jealousies of the Confederate Princes. But from its present and immediate energy, it will in time overthrow every thing around it. Kingdom after kingdom will fall into its mass, till, like the death of the poet, having destroyed every thing about it, it will terminate by preying on itself. A new system will then succeed. The present monarchies of Europe are the fragments of the feudal system. When the military system, under which Europe must now suffer for some centuries, shall in its turn become split and shattered,---our posterity will behold new forms of empire, and modes of rule, which prophecy itself, seeing through the foggy vista of time, could scarcely believe, though it were the finger of Divinity that pointed to them.

" As to the personal character of Bonaparte, imagination, accustomed to the ordinary course of nature, averts from it with incredulity. Every age has its standard of vice or of virtue. The atrocity of the age of Tiberius was not to be expected in the nineteenth century. Human reason, as it was supposed, had made some progress in the lapse of so many centuries---had kept pace at least with the procession of the equinox---had advanced with the maturity of nature.---

If this even admitted a doubt—the immediate gift of Heaven itself—the Spirit of Christianity, had passed over the surface of the moral world, and softened the venom of original malignity and primeval evil. It was not, therefore, to be expected, that the course of time, returning as it were by a backward current, should re-produce, in the nineteenth century, the

Seculum Pyrhæ, nova monstra questae.

This prodigy of another age, however, has appeared amongst us."

Perhaps no distinguished genius ever existed, without being remarkable for some whimsical and eccentric traits of character. These serve, however, merely as foils, and render the brighter tints more conspicuous by the contrast. But as spots in the sun are more gazed at than the effulgence which surrounds them, so the defects of great characters attract more of the attention of mankind than the virtues and talents which constitute their excellence. The following displays of some ridiculous peculiarities in the celebrated author of *The Decline of the Roman Empire*, are from a late English publication.

"Soon after Mr. Gibbon became an inhabitant of Lausanne, a lady of beauty and talents made such an impression on the heart of the historian, that he could not resist the impulse of love; and, falling on his knees, he declared his passion. The object of his affection heard unmoved his petition, and, in spite of the eloquence of her lover, was deaf to his entreaties. The disappointed *Damon* attempted to rise: he tried in vain: his weighty person, unaccustomed to such a position, was not so easily restored to its proper balance. The lady, fearing that some person might discover her admirer in this awkward situation, forgot her anger, and endeavoured with all her might to raise him from the ground: her strength was unequal to the task; and, after several ineffectual struggles both in the author and the lady, the latter was obliged to ring the bell, and to order her astonished servant to raise the prostrate scholar. The story, as might be expected, became public the following morning, and entertained for some days the gossipping circles of this little town.

"But, notwithstanding the general esteem which Mr. Gibbon entertained for the fair sex, and notwithstanding this striking proof of daring gallantry, I have been assured by a person who enjoyed the confidence of that distinguished man, that the historian of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, though he has frequently described in glowing colours, and perhaps in some pages with lascivious freedom, the passion of love, was a stranger to its pleasures, and that he passed his life in a state of singular and rigid chastity.

"Another story, though of a different kind, is equally characteristic. Mr. Gibbon, finding himself indisposed, sent for a physician. The doctor, judging from the appearance of his patient, that his illness, which was but slight, simply arose from repletion, recommended abstinence. Three days afterwards he received a letter from the historian, couched in pressing terms, but still in well rounded sentences, requiring his immediate presence at his house. On his arrival there he found Mr. Gibbon dreadfully altered: his cheeks, usually plump, had now fallen, his complexion was sallow, and his person emaciated. The physician anxiously inquired the cause of this sudden change. "Sir," said his learned patient, "to follow with religious exactitude the ordinances of him whom I consult as my medical adviser, is a principle from which I have never yet ventured to depart; but at this instant I am the victim of obedience, and of a doctrine which I still believe to be generally salutary. You will recollect, sir, that

when last I had the honour of seeing you, you admonished me to abstain from animal food. Three days have elapsed since I received your injunctions, and during that period the only food which has passed these lips has been a beverage of water-gruel: I have consequently become languid; and am now desirous of a more nutritious aliment; but, presuming not to interfere in a science which I did not understand, and having placed the direction of my health under the guidance of your professional skill, I have awaited, I will not say without impatience, the repetition of your visit: I now attend your orders." The physician, who had not called during this interval simply because he conceived Mr. Gibbon had no occasion for further advice, now rang the bell, and, instead of writing a prescription, ordered dinner to be immediately served. A good *bouillon* and a bottle of Burgundy soon restored the historian to health and spirits.

"The same physician advised Mr. Gibbon to take occasionally a dose of medicine. The obedient scholar, adopting with literal precision the system recommended, wrote immediately a Latin letter to his apothecary, directing that on the first of every month such a draught should be sent him as Dr. —— should direct: and accordingly, at each stated period during the rest of his life, whether he were well or ill, he received and swallowed the accustomed dose."

## DEMAGOGUE HUNTING.

### No. VI.

Although the electioneering contest has terminated, it may be well to record some of the artifices, which have been employed by the faction. This is the more necessary, as we may be assured that the *old lies*, which have been promulgated by the faction, will not be thrown aside, but will be served up at every new election, without cloging the appetites of the animals that feed on the filth of the Citizen. We shall briefly advert to a few of the most mischievous of those glaring falsehoods which have been attempted to be palmed on the public, in order that our readers, when the Clinton faction shall again put their poison into circulation, may know where to find its antidote.

One of the most prominent and most mischievous of those falsehoods is a statement that Mr. King, while ambassador to Great-Britain, had improperly interfered to prevent the transportation of a number of Irishmen, among whom the notorious Emmet was one, into the United States. The original letter is as follows:

"*Brighton, Aug.* 28, 1797.

"Sir,

"I ought to inform you that I really have no authority to give or refuse permission to you or any other foreigner to go to the United States; the admission and residence of strangers in that country being a matter that by a late law exclusively belongs to the President. It is true that the government of this country in the course of the last year, in consequence of my interference, gave me assurance, that a particular description of persons in Ireland, who it was understood were going to the United States, should not proceed without our consent: this restraint would doubtless be withdrawn in favour of individuals against whose emigration I should not object; and I conclude, that it is upon this supposition that you have taken the trouble to communicate to me your desire to go and reside in the United States.—Without presuming to form an opinion on the subject of the late disturbances in Ireland, I entertain a distinct one in relation to the political situation of my own country. In common with others, we have felt the influence of the changes that have successively taken place in France, and unfortunately a portion of our inhabitants has erroneously supposed that our political institutions, as well as our national policy might be improved by a close

imitation of the models of France. This opinion, the propagation of which was made the duty and became the chief employment of the French agents resident among us, created a more considerable division among our people, and required a greater watchfulness and activity from the government than could beforehand have been apprehended. I am sorry to make the remark, and shall stand in need of your candour in doing so, that a large proportion of the emigrants from Ireland, and especially in our middle states, has upon this occasion arranged itself on the side of the *malcontents*. I ought to except from this remark most of the enlightened and well educated Irishmen who reside among us, and with a few exceptions I might confine it to the indigent and illiterate, who, entertaining an attachment to freedom, are unable justly to appreciate those salutary restraints without which it degenerates into anarchy. It would be injustice to say that the Irish emigrants are more national than those of other countries, yet being numerous, though a very minor portion of our population, they are capable, from causes which it is now needless to explain, of being generally brought to act in concert, and, under artful leaders, may be, as they have been, enlisted in mischievous combinations against our government. This view leads me to state to you without reserve, the hesitation that I have felt in your case; on the one hand we cannot object to the acquisition of inhabitants from abroad, possessing capital and skill in a branch of business that with due caution, may, without risk or difficulty, and with public as well as private advantage, be established among us; but on the other hand, if the opinions of such inhabitants are likely to throw them into the mass of *malcontents*, their fortune, skill, and consequent influence, would make them tenfold more dangerous, and they might become a disadvantage instead of a benefit to our country. You must be sensible that I possess no sufficient means of forming an opinion respecting your sentiments; but the motives which lead me to interfere with your government to restrain the emigration of the persons above alluded to, oblige me to observe a due caution on the present occasion: at the same time I desire not to act with illiberality, and should be unwilling to bring on my country the slightest imputation of inhospitality. What Mr. Wilson has written, so far as it goes, is satisfactory; and on the whole I have concluded, after this unreserved communication, which I hope will be received with the same candour as it is made, to inform you, authorizing you to make use of the information, that I *withdraw every objection* that may be supposed to stand in the way of your being permitted to go to the United States; adding only my earnest wish, that you may carry with you an unbiassed mind, may find the state of the country, as I believe you will, favourable to you views of business, and its government deserving your attachment.

"I must beg your excuse for the great delay that has occurred in sending you this answer, which I assure you has arisen from other causes than the want of due respect to your letters.

"With great consideration,
"I have the honour to be,
"Sir, your most ob. serv't.
"RUFUS KING."

This letter, which is highly honourable to Mr. King, and displays a laudable solicitude to prevent America from becoming the Botany Bay of Europe, has been by the incendiary faction, made a pretext for hostility against the American Ticket. But surely nothing can be more plain than this truth. These prisoners, who were solicitious to emigrate to America, were *convicts*. *They had been* found guilty by a jury of their peers, and *condemned by the laws of their country*. Whether they were guilty or unjustly condemned, was not the province of Mr. King to decide.

*(To be continued.)*

## *FOREIGN.*

*Late and Important*—On Tuesday evening arrived at Philadelphia the ship Frederick Augustus, captain Potter, in 29 days from Amsterdam. Captain P. informs, that it was current at the time of his sailing, that on or about the 1st of March the Russians had gained considerable advantage of the French, who, with the Emperor at their head, had charged the Russians seven times, and were as often repulsed; that the French had retreated 100 miles, and left the Russians in possession of the winter-quarters, lately occupied by the French.

### TRANSLATIONS.

*Warsaw, Feb.* 28.—According to the latest accounts, the Russian army still continued behind the Pregel, where it had received a considerable reinforcement, and where they were throwing up intrenchments.—From the 12th to the 18th, the French army was observed to be in motion, which gave indications of another general battle; but we have since learnt, that it was only meant to reconnoitre the position of the enemy.—The Russian General, Benningsen, thinking that the French had weakened themselves on the Narew, to strengthen their grand army in East Prussia, gave orders to general Essen to make an attempt in that quarter, which, as is known, fell out to the disadvantage of the Russians near Ostrolenka.

The Emperor Napoleon has ordered that the sieges of Dantzic, Colberg, and Graudentz, be carried on with all possible activity, to curb the numerous excursions which are made in the rear of the army. We hear that the operations against Dantzig and Grudentz have successfully commenced.

New engagements on the Narew took place on the 25th, if we may credit the intelligence of a courier who arrived here to-day.

The baron St. Vincent is returned hither from Cracow, and has had constant interviews with the Prince of Benevento ever since the 14th inst. Besides, couriers are daily dispatched to and received from Vienna.

*From the Frontiers of Pomerania.*

*March* 6.—To-day we heard a violent cannonade from the environs of Stralsund. It is said that the Swedes have made a powerful sortie from that citadel. A part of Marshal Mortier's corps is at present at Grimme; and two regiments of it have already passed through Griefswald, on their route to Friesland, &c.

*Berlin, March* 10.—Letters have been received from the head quarters at Osterode, dated the 4th inst. but which contain nothing new.

It is said the citadel of Sillberberg in Silesia, has offered to capitulate.

*Schiedam, March* 20.—The British minister residing at Vienna, received intelligence on the 1st inst. that the Porte had declared war against England, Admiral Louis having threatened to destroy Constantinople, in case the Porte did not consent to renew its treaties with Russia and England, and send off instantly the French minister and his suite. After a Council of State had been held, it was resolved to seize on the person of the English ambassador, and of all English subjects. Mr. Arbuthnot, however, aware of the approaching storm, had previously made his escape to the English frigate which had brought the summons.

The father of Prince Ypsilanti had been strangled in his prison.

### THE ELECTION.

Although the result of this election has not been such as to completely answer the wishes of the Federal party, we believe that it ought to be considered as an earnest of future triumphs. The faction have obtained a majority of 501.

This, however, ought by no means to discourage true Americans. Their

opponents made use of every art which the most corrupt ingenuity could suggest, and have succeeded by the *votes of foreigners*.

It ought to be one of the first steps of real Americans, to barricade society against the diurnal influx of *foreigners*. The question must eventually be between American and foreign influence. Our petty party-disputes ought to yield to that great principle. Let foreigners make America an asylum, but as long as they are permitted to interfere in our elections, so long we shall be be controlled by men who are by no means competent to decide on our political interests. They have their rights: those rights, however, are *civil rights*, but not *political*. A man who is not a stockholder, might with as much propriety claim a vote for the disposition of the shares in a banking company, as your emigrant from Europe those franchises which have been bought by the best blood of our country. The freedom of America is a birth-right which ought not to be sold for a mess of pottage. Without sentiments of *national honour*, we shall soon be without national power.---We shall be trodden on by foreigners, and shall deserve our fate.

SAMUEL BOYSE, the author of a collection of poems from which the following is extracted, was son to Joseph Boyse, a dissenting minister in Dublin; he was born in 1708, and received his education at Dnblin. At the age of 18 he was sent to the university of Glasgow, but marrying before he was 20, returned to Dublin with his wife, where the conduct of neither was commendable. The husband, who had no graces of person, and still fewer of conversation, passed his time in abject trifling, and his wife in intrigue; and their extravagance reduced his father to indigence. In 1791 Boyse resided at Edinburgh, where he published a volume of poems, addressed to the Countess of Eglinton, the patroness of genius. Here also he distinguished himself by an elegy, called the Tears of the Muses, on the death of the Viscountess Stormont, which introduced him to the Viscount, and likewise to the Dutchess of Gordon, who had engaged for him an office in the customs, which he lost by an unpardonable remissness. The Dutchess sent him to London with recommendations to Mr. Pope, and the lord chancellor King. He went to Twickenham; but, the poet not being at home, he never repeated the visit; by the peer he was most graciously received. From this period he wrote many poems; but those, though excellent in their kind (and it is said sufficient to have filled at least six volumes), were lost to the world, by being introduced with no advantage. He had so strong a propensity to grovelling, that his acquaintance were generally such as could be of no service to him; and those in higher life he addressed by letters, not having sufficient confidence or politeness to converse familiarly with them. He had also a taste for painting, music, and heraldry, with the last of which he was well acquainted. Many of his poems are in the Gentleman's Magazine, signed Y. and ALCEUS.

### HORACE, *Book* I. *Ode* XXX.

#### IMITATED.

*Bright* VENUS! *Goddess All-divine,*
*Round whom a thousand Graces shine,*
*A thousand* Cupids *gayly smile,*
*Leave thy* fav'rite *lovely* Isle;
*Descend, celestial radiant guest,*
*And fix thy seat in* FLAVIA'S *breast;*
*Kindle there thy pleasing fire,*
*Love and tenderness inspire,*
*Wishes warm and soft desire;*
*Do thou her snowy bosom warm,*
*And let her bless, as well as charm!*

II.

*To complete the heav'nly joy,*
*Bring with thee thy charming boy;*
*Let the* Wanton *touch her heart,*
*With his own resistless dart,*
*Affected coyness soon shall fly,*
*And fondness sparkle in her eye;*
*Forgiveness she shall soon implore,*
*For slighting thy almighty pow'r,*
*And feel the wound she scorn'd before;*
*New passions in her breast shall move,*
*And* FLAVIA *be a slave to Love!*

## *TO DR. CAUSTIC.*

Sir,

The electioneering campaign having terminated for the season, in the complete discomfiture, it is hoped, of the Gallo-Hibernico-Anti-American-Faction, I take the liberty to digress a little from the arid path of politics, and present you, instead of a pill for the democrats, a sort of a lozenge of a love song. This I hope will be acceptable, for you know, your worship, that as a literary caterer, you have to consult the fastidious appetites of the beau-monde, alias, your Broadway loungers, who prefer the sweet-meats of an Anacreontic-songster to the bull-beef of a profound politician. I am,

*Gen.* BENHADAD BANGEM, *Esq.*

## EXPOSTULATION.

*A delicate ditty, addressed to Miss* CELESTINA CRABSTICK.

O, quæ beatam Diva tenes Cyprum, et
Memphin carentem Sithonia nivi,
Regina sublimi flagello
Tange Chloën semel arrogantem.
*Venus, thy dexter claw a club in,*
*Give my flint-hearted Miss a drubbing.*

MY pretty Miss prude,
Though I would'nt be rude,
Your coyness is quite over-acted;
This state of suspense
Gives me trouble immense,
And I'm more than half raving distracted.

In attempting to sip
From your delicate lip
Somewhat of the essence of nectar,
You gave me a box,
Which would level an ox,
And read me a terrible lecture.

Yet, my comical Miss,
Your eyes tell me "yes,"
While your elbow says "keep at a dis-
Thus, like Tantalus vex'd, [tance!"
I'm so sadly perplex'd,
I shall die without speedy assistance.

Since time is fast flitting,
It surely is fitting,
We make at this moment the most on't;
If a Kiss I should steal,
May I go to the de'l,
If ever, like MOORE, I would boast on't.

The following song was written by some patriotic supporter of the American Ticket.

## DE WITT AND HIS GANG.

TUNE---*Derry down!---down!---down!*

Ye lads of true spirit and SEVENT-SIX,
Who scorn with base Jacobin Traitors to mix,
Come join with your brethren—away to the poll,
And show you're not sway'd by OUTLANDISH CONTROL.

See De Witt at the head of his refugee trash,
With his GENET all lies, and his EMMET all flash,
And his gang of wild Irish let loose on the town,
Like a pack of fierce blood-hounds, to *hunt us all down.*

Shall these convicts from Ireland, these agents from France,
Presume their foul slanders and lies to advance,
Attempt our lov'd WASHINGTON's name to abuse,
And compel our brave freemen to vote as they choose?

No! the blood of our fathers that runs in each vein,
Shall inspire us once more our rights to maintain,
Shall prompt us like patriots once more to oppose,
All FOREIGN INVADERS and double fac'd foes.

So don't think, Master Clinton, to set us agog,
With your fierce Paddy Emmet, and sly Monsieur Frog;
Your HIBERNIAN SOCIETY won't do at this day;
You must use snugger traps when the rat has *grown grey.*

Your FIGHTING COMMITTEE, those fierce men of might,
Who would *cudgel* each citizen out of his right,
Had better take care, lest they meet with the rubs,
And, by way of *desert*, have to eat their own clubs.

Ye lads of true spirit and SEVENTY-SIX, &c.

OLD LEXINGTON.

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